

# ANASAZI HERITAGE CENTER

## EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Rev. 3/12

1. **Gallery Walk** (all ages): Tour the Main Exhibit Gallery with *Gallery Walk* (grades 4 and above) activity pages or *Scavenger Hunt* (grades K and above). Our *Adult Guide* pages are appropriate for both activities and provide important background information and dialogue for adult chaperones to use while working with small groups.

2. \* **Corn is Life** (grades 3 – 6, 7 – 12): Learn how the Hopi, as descendents of the Ancestral Puebloans, view corn as an important food source and the center of spiritual activity. After viewing the twenty-minute video, students discuss the connections with what we know about modern Pueblo people and Ancestral Puebloans. Younger students then create a seed pouch to hold the three seeds important to Ancestral Pueblo farmers (bean, corn, squash). Older students learn the long history of corn and how it has influenced the world.

3. \* **Why Build on the Hill?** (all ages): Compare the Dominguez and Escalante Pueblos to understand purposes of two very different, yet contemporary, structures. Students learn about the interpretive process used by archaeologists to answer questions about architectural styles and placement on the landscape.

4. \* **Context and Clues** (grades 4 and above): Use real data from the Escalante Pueblo excavation to understand how archaeologists interpret cultural sites. Teams will make observations and use inferences to draw conclusions about lifestyles at the Pueblo.

5. **Pots and Rocks** (grades 4 and above): Learn about the importance of the area's geology in providing tool materials for the Ancestral Puebloans. Students will learn about the geologic column for this area and how each layer in the stratigraphic column influenced the lives of the Ancestral Puebloans.

6. **Pueblo Games / Atlatls and Spears** (grades 4 and above): Weather and ground surface dependent, learn how traditional Puebloan games prepare young people for life by teaching and reinforcing survival skills. Discover the dynamics of throwing a spear with an atlatl and how Archaic and Basketmaker Ancestral Puebloans used them

7. **Special Exhibit Activity** (Through October 31, 2012) the Anasazi Heritage Center presents *Pieces of the Puzzle: New Perspectives on the Hohokam*. A student guide is available for in-depth understanding of these neighbors to the south of the Ancestral Pueblo people. Additionally, students will learn about a very special trade item the Hohokam produced: **etched seashell ornaments**.

- Younger students through grade 3 will create scratch designs using crayon and tempera paint to replicate the etching process.
- Student grades 4 and above, will use fingernail polish on seashells to create a design then, in their classroom, use vinegar to etch the areas not covered by the polish.

8. **Visit With Respect** Activity (grades 2 and above): Understand why we should leave artifacts and other aspects of cultural sites in place and alternatives to taking or moving those artifacts. Student activities might include an art activity to recreate Ancestral Pueblo pottery sherds.

9. \* **Nature's Harvest** (all ages): Learn how the Ancestral Puebloans utilized plants in their landscape. Students discover indigenous plants on a half-mile walk to Escalante Pueblo. The AHC Educator will share replicas of artifacts to demonstrate how these plants were used. This activity is often combined with Why Build on the Hill? or Context and Clues.

10. **Plant Jeopardy** (grades 4 and above) or **Plant-Tac-Toe** (grades 1 and above): Learn traditional plant uses then test your knowledge with one of the games. Students will use a spreadsheet to take notes on plant uses. Plant Jeopardy tests their knowledge of all 24 plants represented while Plant-Tac-Toe allows them to understand six plants at a time.

11. **Decisions, Decisions** (grades 6 and above): Students work with real-life scenarios of multiple-use in Canyons of the Ancients National Monument. Groups representing modern Puebloans, environmental groups, and geologists work together to create a plan and present it to the Monument Manager. This lesson is presented in *Getting to Know Canyons of the Ancients National Monument*, available at our museum shop operated by our non-profit partner Canyonlands Natural History Association.

**SPEAK TO ANASAZI HERITAGE CENTER EDUCATOR IN ADVANCE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLAN AN ACTIVITY ON A TOPIC NOT REPRESENTED IN THIS LIST.**

\* Original lesson plan in *Escalante Pueblo Curriculum*.